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ABSTRACT

This guide is designed for adults who suspect or know they have a learning disability and for family and friends who wish to help. It is intended to provide a starting point for gaining information that can lead to obtaining services at the state or local level. It provides information on assessing the problem, a learning disabilities checklist, and a selection of resources--organizations, publications, and programs. This selection of resources includes only organizations that operate on a national level and can put inquirers in contact with regional or local resources that have been selected. A short description of each organization's activities is provided to help readers identify which resources are best suited to their needs and concerns. The organizations are of the following types: 14 national resource centers; 9 general education organizations; 7 learning disabilities organizations; 4 attention deficit disorder organizations; 4 employment organizations; and 5 technology organizations. The life management section lists 14 programs that provide postsecondary training and residential housing for their enrolled students. Twenty publications listed in the guide provide general information for adults with learning disabilities. A listing of 15 toll-free numbers concludes the guide. (YLB)

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ED 387 681

National Resources for Adults with Learning Disabilities

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or within the Washington, DC area
(202) 939-9320
(voice/TT on both numbers)
or
National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center
Academy for Educational Development
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 884-8185; (800) 953-ALLD

September 1995

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Foreword

In the past ten years, information for and about the adult with learning disabilities has increased significantly. There has been a growing recognition by educational professionals that learning disabilities are real and that they affect adults as well as children. Each of us possesses variations in our learning, but for most of us the things we are not good at do not present major barriers. For many adults, however, difficulties in learning lead to difficulties in employment, education, and the rest of daily life.

Understanding the needs of adults with learning disabilities has become a more pressing issue due to the maturation of individuals who attended school when services for students with learning disabilities were not widely available. As children, these individuals did not receive services or were identified too late in their school careers for effective intervention. Therefore, the need for a variety of services for adults with learning disabilities has received attention from special educators, vocational rehabilitation counselors, higher education professionals, adult and vocational educators, and more recently, literacy program providers. In addition, through legislation such as the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Americans with Disabilities Act, Congress has mandated that people with disabilities, including those with learning disabilities, are assured basic opportunities.

National Resources for Adults with Learning Disabilities is a publication for adults who suspect or know they have a learning disability, and for family and friends who wish to help. Through a collaborative effort, the HEATH Resource Center, a program of the American Council on Education, and the newly established National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center (National ALLD Center), a program of the Academy for Educational Development in collaboration with the University of Kansas Institute for Research in Learning Disabilities, have prepared this guide to provide information for an adult who is unsure of where to go for help and information. In addition, the guide provides information on assessing the problem, a learning disabilities checklist, and a selection of resources. The guide is intended to provide a starting point for gaining information that can lead to obtaining services at the state or local level.

It has been my pleasure to work with and learn from students with learning disabilities for the last 20 years. As the former director of an evening program for adults with learning disabilities, I've watched those adults improve their skills, increase their self-esteem, and

become more successful individuals. Together with the staff of the HEATH Resource Center and the National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center, I am hopeful that this resource guide will provide information and support for the millions of adults with learning disabilities who need a starting point in their search for a better life. We appreciate the cooperation of adults with learning disabilities, members of HEATH's Advisory Board and Resource Panel, and members of the National ALLD Center's Advisory Group at the Academy for Educational Development.

Neil A. Sturomski

Neil A. Sturomski, Director
National Adult Literacy and
Learning Disabilities Center

Introduction

When adults suspect they have a learning disability, or that someone they care about does, they need information. They often have questions such as, "What can I do?" "Whom can I call?" "How can I obtain information?" "Where are available services?" **National Resources for Adults with Learning Disabilities** provides a starting point in the search for answers. This publication is designed to help adults who suspect they have a learning disability collect enough information to be able to set realistic goals, attain them, and live productive lives.

This guide contains a selection of national resources to assist individuals who suspect they may have a learning disability. It is not a comprehensive list of resources, but rather a collection of organizations, publications, and programs. Only organizations that operate on a national level and can put inquirers in contact with regional or local resources have been selected. A short description of each organization's activities is provided to help readers identify which resources are best suited to their needs and concerns. Publications listed in this guide provide general information for adults with learning disabilities. Programs listed not only provide the learning component, but also offer residential housing.

Assessing the Problem

Those adults who suspect they may have a learning disability can begin to find assistance by having an assessment conducted by **qualified professionals**. Qualified professionals are individuals trained to conduct assessments. Often the professionals have been certified to select, administer, and interpret a variety of neurological, psychological, educational, and vocational assessment instruments. Different assessment procedures may be appropriate in various settings such as community colleges, adult basic education programs, and through vocational rehabilitation agencies. It is important for the adult not only to be actively involved in the assessment process, but also to have confidence in the professional with whom he or she is working.

An **assessment** refers to the gathering of relevant information that can be used to help an adult make decisions, and provides a means for assisting an adult to live more fully. An adult is assessed because of problems in employment, education, and/or life situations. An assessment involves more than just taking tests. An assessment includes an **evaluation**, a **diagnosis**, and **recommendations**.

The first stage of an **evaluation** is usually a screening. Screening tools use abbreviated, informal methods to determine if an individual is "at risk" for a learning disability. Examples of informal methods include, but are not limited to: an interview; reviews of medical, school, or employment histories; written answers to a few questions; or a brief test. It is important to understand, however, that being screened for a learning disability is different from undergoing a thorough evaluation. When conducting a thorough evaluation, qualified professionals may first refer to the results of the screening in order to plan which tests to administer. Such tests may include, but are not limited to, those that provide information on intelligence, aptitude, achievement, and vocational interest. During the evaluation stage of the assessment process, all relevant information about an individual should be gathered.

A **diagnosis** is a statement of the specific type of learning disability that an individual may have, based on an interpretation of the information gathered during the evaluation. A diagnosis serves a useful purpose if it explains an individual's particular strengths and weaknesses, as well as determines eligibility for resources or support services that have

not been otherwise available. Through a careful examination and analysis of all the information gathered during the evaluation, qualified professionals use the diagnostic stage of the assessment process to explain the information gathered and to offer recommendations.

Recommendations should provide direction in employment, education, and daily living. Specific recommendations may be made regarding the instructional strategies which an individual will find most successful, as well as other ways to compensate for and/or overcome some of the effects of the disability. Based on specific strengths and areas for development identified during the evaluation and diagnostic stages of the assessment process, recommendations should also suggest possible accommodations that an individual can use to be more successful and feel less frustrated in everyday life.

Adults should be assessed according to their age, experience, and career objectives. This is the only way appropriate, helpful, and conclusive information can be provided to adults. As a result of an assessment, adults will have new information that can help them plan how to obtain the assistance they need. Regardless of their diagnosis, individuals will know more about themselves, have a greater understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and feel better about themselves.

Locating a Qualified Professional

In addition to the resources listed in this publication, there are agencies in most areas that can refer inquirers to diagnosticians or professionals qualified to conduct assessments appropriate for adults.

Check your telephone directory for the following:

- adult education in the public school system;
- adult literacy programs or literacy councils;
- community mental health agencies;
- counseling or study skills center at a local college or university;
- educational therapists or learning specialists in private practice;
- guidance counselors in high schools;
- Learning Disability Association of America, often listed with the name of the city or county first;
- Orton Dyslexia Society;
- private schools or institutions specializing in learning disabilities;

- special education departments and/or disability support service offices in colleges or universities;
- State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency; and
- university-affiliated hospitals.

Questions to Ask Qualified Professionals

- Have you tested many adults with learning disabilities?
- How long will the assessment take?
- What will the assessment cover?
- Will there be a *written* and an *oral* report of the assessment?
- Will our discussion give me more information regarding why I am having trouble with my job or job training, school, or daily life?
- Will you also give me ideas on how to improve my skills and how to compensate for my disability?
- Will the report make recommendations about where to go for immediate help?
- What is the cost? What does the cost cover?
- What are possibilities and costs for additional consultation?
- Can insurance cover the costs? Are there other funding sources? Can a payment plan be worked out?

A Learning Disabilities Checklist

A checklist is a guide. It is a list of characteristics. It is difficult to provide a checklist of typical characteristics of adults with learning disabilities because their most common characteristics are their unique differences. In addition, most adults exhibit or have exhibited some of these characteristics. In other words, saying yes to any one item on this checklist does not mean you are a person with a learning disability. Even if a number of the following items sound familiar to you, you are not necessarily an individual with a learning disability. However, if you say "that's me" for most of the items, and if you experience these difficulties to such a degree that they cause problems in employment, education, and/or daily living, it might be useful for you to obtain an assessment by qualified professionals experienced in working with adults with learning disabilities.

There are many worthwhile checklists available from a number of organizations. The following checklist was adapted from lists of learning disabilities' characteristics developed by the following organizations: Learning Disabilities Association of America, ***For Employers... A Look at Learning Disabilities***, 1990; ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education, ***Examples of Learning Disability Characteristics***, 1991; The Orton Dyslexia Society's ***Annals of Dyslexia***, Volume XLIII, 1993; and the Council for Learning Disabilities, ***Infosheet***, October 1993.

While individuals with learning disabilities have average or above average intelligence, they do not excel in employment, education, and/or life situations at the same level as their peers. Identified characteristics are as follows:

- May perform similar tasks differently from day to day;
- May read well but not write well, or write well but not read well;
- May be able to learn information presented in one way, but not in another;
- May have a short attention span, be impulsive, and/or be easily distracted;
- May have difficulty telling or understanding jokes;
- May misinterpret language, have poor comprehension of what is said:
- May have difficulty with social skills, may misinterpret social cues;

- May find it difficult to memorize information;
- May have difficulty following a schedule, being on time, or meeting deadlines;
- May get lost easily, either driving and/or in large buildings;
- May have trouble reading maps;
- May often misread or miscopy;
- May confuse similar letters or numbers, reverse them, or confuse their order;
- May have difficulty reading the newspaper, following small print, and/or following columns;
- May be able to explain things orally, but not in writing;
- May have difficulty writing ideas on paper;
- May reverse or omit letters, words, or phrases when writing;
- May have difficulty completing job applications correctly;
- May have persistent problems with sentence structure, writing mechanics, and organizing written work;
- May experience continuous problems with spelling the same word differently in one document;
- May have trouble dialing phone numbers and reading addresses;
- May have difficulty with math, math language, and math concepts;
- May reverse numbers in checkbook and have difficulty balancing a checkbook;
- May confuse right and left, up and down;
- May have difficulty following directions, especially multiple directions;
- May be poorly coordinated;
- May be unable to tell you what has just been said; and
- May hear sounds, words, or sentences imperfectly or incorrectly.

As mentioned previously, an adult with learning disabilities may exhibit some of these characteristics, but not necessarily all of them. If an individual exhibits several or many of these characteristics to such a degree that they cause problems in work, school, or everyday life, he or she might benefit from an assessment by qualified professionals.

Resources

National Resource Centers

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE)
1101 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 429-5131
The AAACE is a professional association for practitioners concerned with enhancing the quality of adult learning. The organization fosters the development and sharing of information, theory, research, and best practices with its members.

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)
P.O. Box 21192
Columbus, OH, 43221
(614) 488-4972
(614) 488-1174 (Fax)
AHEAD, formerly the Association on Handicapped Student Service Programs in Postsecondary Education, is an international, multicultural organization of professionals committed to full participation in higher education for persons with disabilities. The Association has numerous training programs, workshops, publications, and conferences.

Career College Association (CCA)
750 First Street, NE, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20002-4242
(202) 336-6749
(202) 336-6828 (Fax)
CCA is an educational association with approximately 600 members from independent, non-profit, and taxpaying colleges/schools. All of these accredited institutions prepare people for careers in business. CCA publishes an annual **Directory of Private Accredited Career Schools and Colleges of Technology**, which provides general information about accredited institutions in a variety of business career fields.

Division of Adult Education and Literacy Clearinghouse
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Vocational and Adult Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20202
(202) 205-9996
(202) 205-8973 (Fax)
This clearinghouse links the adult education community with existing resources in adult education and provides information which deals with programs funded under the Adult Education Act (P.L. 100-297). The clearinghouse provides a number of free publications, fact sheets, bibliographies, directories, abstracts, etc. available for the adult with special learning needs.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult, Career, and Vocational Education
1900 Kenny Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1090
(614) 292-4353
(800) 848-4815
Part of the ERIC System, this clearinghouse offers publications, information, and referrals to those working with adults who are learning disabled. It does not provide direct services, but it disseminates materials through the ERIC database and clearinghouse publications. Two examples of available publications are: **Adults with Learning Disabilities: An Overview for the Adult Educator**, by Jovita Ross-Gordon (IN337 $7), and **Teaching Adults with Learning Disabilities** (ERIC Digest #99, no cost).

HEATH Resource Center
National Clearinghouse on Postsecondary Education for Individuals with Disabilities
American Council on Education
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 939-9320
(800) 544-3284
(202) 833-4760 (Fax)
The HEATH Resource Center operates the national clearinghouse on postsecondary education for individuals with disabilities. A program of the American Council on Education, HEATH serves as an information exchange for the educational support services, policies, procedures, adaptations, and opportunities of American campuses, vocational-technical schools, adult education programs, and other training entities after high school. The Center collects and disseminates this information so that people with disabilities can develop their full potential through postsecondary education and training.

Learning Disabilities Research and Training Center
The University of Georgia
534 Aderhold Hall
Athens, GA 30602
(706) 542-1300
(706) 542-4532 (Fax)
The Learning Disabilities Research and Training Center focuses on four research strands: policy and funding; functional assessment; employment/transition; and consumer empowerment. Training activities include a series of teleconference distance learning programs, field-based internships, train-the-trainer courses, and technical assistance for transition personnel and consumers. Contact the Center to receive the free newsletter and additional information.

Materials Development Center
Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute
University of Wisconsin-Stout
Menomonie, WI 54751
(715) 232-1342
The Center develops and disseminates information to professionals about vocational rehabilitation and training of students with disabilities. Materials include information on vocational evaluation, work adjustment, job placement, and independent living.

National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center
(National ALLD Center)
Academy for Educational Development
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20009-1202
(202) 884-8185
(202) 884-8422 (Fax)
The Center, established in October 1993, is a national resource for information exchange regarding learning disabilities and their impact on the

provision of literacy services. Funded by the National Institute for Literacy, the Center provides technical assistance in current best practices in learning disabilities to literacy providers and practitioners. In addition to sharing information, the Center develops and refines knowledge on effective practices for serving adults with learning disabilities.

National Association for Adults with Special Learning Needs (NAASLN)
P.O. Box 716
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(610) 525-8336
(610) 525-8337 (Fax)
NAASLN is a non-profit organization designed to organize, establish, and promote an effective national and international coalition of professionals, advocates, and consumers of lifelong learning for the purpose of educating adults with special learning needs.

National Association of Vocational Education Special Needs Personnel (NAVESNP)
Special Needs Division
American Vocational Association
2020 14th Street
Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 522-6121
NAVESNP is a national association of vocational education professionals concerned with the education of disabled, disadvantaged, and other special needs students.

National Center for Research in Vocational Education (NCRVE)
University of California at Berkeley
2150 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 1250
Berkeley, CA 24704
(510) 642-4004
(510) 642-2124
(800) 762-4093
The Center provides a wide range of materials for professionals about curriculum development, technical education, career planning, and preparation for employment.

National Clearinghouse on ESL Literacy Education (NCLE)
Center for Applied Linguistics
1118 22nd Street, NW
Washington, DC
(202) 429-9292
(202) 659-5641 (Fax)
NCLE's objective is to provide timely information to practitioners and others interested in adult ESL literacy education.

Recording for the Blind (RFB)
20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 20542
(609) 452-0606
(800) 221-4792
RFB is a national non-profit organization that provides taped educational books free on loan, books on diskette, library services, and other educational and professional resources to individuals who cannot read standard print because of a visual, physical or perceptual disability.

General Education

Contact Center Inc.
National Literacy Hotline
P.O. Box 81826
Lincoln, NE
1-800-228-8813
(402) 464-5931 (Fax)
This national toll-free hotline refers callers to the literacy program in their local area.

General Educational Development Testing Service (GEDTS)
Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials
American Council on Education
One Dupont Circle
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 939-9490
(800) 626-9433
(202) 775-8578 (Fax)
GEDTS administers the GED Tests and provides information on disability-related adaptations/accommodations for the GED Tests to prospective examinees and instructors. Successful GED Test takers earn a high school equivalency diploma. The tests are available in audio, braille, and large print editions. GEDTS also publishes **GED Items**, a bi-monthly newsletter for examiners and adult education instructors.

Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy
The Pennsylvania State University
204 Calder Way, Suite 209
University Park, PA 16801-4756
(814) 863-3777
(814) 863-6108 (Fax)
This organization creates high-technology learning tools such as computer-aided instruction in adult basic education, workplace literacy, and family literacy.

Laubach Literacy Action (LLA)
P.O. Box 131
Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 422-9121
(315) 422-6369 (Fax)
Laubach Literacy Action is the nation's largest network of adult literacy programs providing basic literacy and ESL instruction through trained volunteers. LLA affiliates in the United States serve more than 950 communities in 45 states.

Learning Resources Network
1554 Hayes
Manhattan, KS 66502
(913) 539-5376
This network for educators provides resources to adult education and adult basic education service providers.

Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA)
5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214
(315) 445-8000
(315) 445-8006 (Fax)
LVA is a national non-profit organization with more than 400 affiliate programs in 40 states. LVA is the exclusive distributor of PULL: Project for Unique Learners in Literacy. It was developed to answer questions on teaching adult learners who appear to have the ability to learn to read, but who may not be experiencing success with the traditional methods.

National Center on Adult Literacy (NCAL)
University of Pennsylvania
3910 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 91904-3111
(215) 898-2100
(215) 898-9804 (Fax)
The National Center on Adult Literacy (NCAL) was established in 1990 by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement at the U.S. Department of Education, with co-funding from the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. The mission of NCAL addresses three primary challenges: to enhance the knowledge base about adult literacy; to improve the quality of research and development in the field; and to ensure a strong, two-way relationship between research and practice. Dissemination efforts include a newsletter, publication of reports on a broad range of topics relevant to adult literacy, Internet usage, and more.

National Institute for Literacy (NIFL)
800 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20202-7560
(202) 632-1500
(202) 632-1512 (Fax)
The Institute's work focuses on four key priorities: providing leadership in the literacy field through national and state advocacy activities; creating and gathering knowledge and information that can improve the quality of literacy services; collaborating to build national, state, and local capacity for effective service delivery; and facilitating communication in the literacy community through a national information and communication system.

Rural Clearinghouse for Lifelong Education and Development
Kansas State College
111 College Court Building
Manhattan, KS 66506-6001
(913) 532-5560
(913) 532-5637 (Fax)
The Rural Clearinghouse for Lifelong Education and Development is a national effort to improve rural access to continuing education. The Clearinghouse serves the complete range of educational providers including colleges and universities, community colleges, cooperative extension programs, libraries, community-based organizations, and community/economic development corporations in a variety of ways.

Learning Disabilities Organizations

Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD)
P.O. Box 40303
Overland Park, KS 66204
(913) 492-8755
(913) 492-2546 (Fax)
CLD is a national professional organization dedicated solely to professionals working with individuals who have learning disabilities. Mission: Committed to enhance the education and life span development of individuals with learning disabilities. CLD establishes standards of excellence and promotes innovative strategies on research and practice through interdisciplinary collegiality, collaboration, and advocacy. CLD's publication, **Learning Disability Quarterly**, focuses on the latest research in the field of learning disabilities with an applied focus.

LAUNCH, INC.
Department of Special Education - ETSA
Commerce, TX 75428
(214) 886-5932
LAUNCH provides resources for learning disabled individuals, coordinates efforts of other local, state, and national LD organizations, acts as a communication channel for people with learning disabilities through a monthly newsletter, and provides programs to enhance social interaction.

Learning Disabilities Association of America, Inc. (LDA)
4156 Library Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15234
(412) 341-1515
(412) 344-0224 (Fax)
LDA (formerly ACLD), a non-profit volunteer advocacy organization, provides information and referral for parents, professionals, and consumers involved with or in search of support groups and networking opportunities through local LDA Youth and Adult Section Chapters. A publication list is available. The Association also prints **LDA Newsbriefs**, a bi-monthly newsletter for parents, professionals, and adults with LD. Available for $13.50/year by contacting LDA.

National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)
381 Park Avenue, South
Suite 1420
New York, NY 10016
(212) 545-7510
(212) 545-9665 (Fax)
NCLD is an organization committed to improving the lives of those affected by learning disabilities (LD). NCLD provides services and conducts programs nationwide, benefiting children and adults with LD, their families, teachers, and other professionals. NCLD provides the latest information on learning disabilities and local resources to parents, professionals, employers, and others dealing with learning disabilities. NCLD's annual publication is **Their World**.

National Network of Learning Disabled Adults (NNLDA)
808 N. 82nd Street
Suite F2
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
(602) 941-5112
The NNLDA provides information and referral for LD adults involved with or in search of support groups and networking opportunities. A list of support groups for LD adults is available by request. The Network publishes a quarterly newsletter and holds an annual general assembly in conjunction with the annual meeting of the President's Committee on Employ-

ment of People with Disabilities.

Orton Dyslexia Society
8600 LaSalle Road
Chester Building, Suite 382
Baltimore, MD 21286-2044
(410) 296-0232
(800) 222-3123
The Society is an international scientific and educational association concerned with the widespread problem of the specific language disability of developmental dyslexia. Local and state chapters serve as literacy resources for dyslexic adults and those who teach or advise them.

Rebus Institute
1499 Bayshore Blvd.
Suite 146
Burlingame, CA 94010
(415) 697-7424
(415) 697-3734 (Fax)
The Rebus Institute is a national non-profit organization devoted to the study and dissemination of information on adult issues related to Specific Learning Disabilities (LD) and Attention Deficit Disorders (ADD). Its goal is to promote public awareness of the abilities, strengths, and methods that lead to success for adults with LD/ADD.

Attention Deficit Disorder Organizations

Adults with learning disabilities and adults with attention deficit disorder (ADD) often share some of the same characteristics. An adult with a learning disability may also have an attention deficit disorder. Information about national organizations that serve individuals with attention deficit disorder is provided for those adults who have both a learning disability and an attention deficit disorder, as determined by qualified professionals.

ADDult Support Network
2620 Ivy Place
Toledo, OH 43613
The ADDult Support Network is a volunteer organization affiliated with the Attention Deficit Disorder Association (ADDA). The Network keeps a running list of local ADD support groups across the country and can refer individuals to the group closest to them. Those interested in obtaining such a referral are asked to send a self-addressed stamped envelope. The Network publishes a quarterly newsletter, **ADDult News** ($8.00/year), and also makes available an ADDult Information Packet on adults with ADD ($3.00).

Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (CHADD)
499 Northwest 70th Avenue
Suite 308
Plantation, FL 33317
(305) 587-3700
(305) 587-4599 (Fax)
CHADD is a non-profit, parent-based organization that disseminates information on ADD and coordinates more than 460 parent support groups. It also publishes a semi-annual magazine, **CHADDER,** and a newsletter, **Chadderbox**.

The Attention Deficit Information Network, Inc. (AD-IN)
475 Hillside Avenue
Needham, MA 02194
(617) 455-9895
AD-IN is a non-profit volunteer organization that offers support and information to families of children with attention deficit disorder (ADD), adults with ADD, and professionals through an international network of 60 parent and adult chapters. Contact AD-IN for a list of chapters, as well as to receive cost information for information packets specifically designed for adults with ADD, parents, or educators. AD-IN also provides information to those interested in starting a new local chapter, and serves as a resource for information on training programs and speakers for those who work with individuals with ADD.

Challenge Inc.
P.O. Box 488
Westbury, MA 01985
(508) 462-0495 (Phone/Fax)
Provides referrals to parent support groups nationally. Reponds to information request and refers appropriate requests to their professional advisors.

Employment

Job Accommodation Network (JAN)
West Virginia University
809 Allen Hall
Morgantown, WV 26506
(304) 293-7186
(800) ADA-WORK
JAN is an international information network and consulting resource that provides information about employment issues to employers, rehabilitation professionals, and persons with disabilities. Callers should be prepared to explain their specific problem and job circumstances. Sponsored by the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, the Network is operated by West Virginia University's Rehabilitation Research and Training Center. Brochures, printed materials, and a newsletter are available free of charge.

Mainstream, Inc.
3 Bethesda Metro Center
Suite 830
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 654-2400
(301) 654-2403 (Fax)
Established in 1975, this non-profit organization works with employers and service providers around the country to increase employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. Mainstream produces publications and videos and provides in-house training, seminars, and technical assistance on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mainstream operates its own placement program, Project LINK, in Washington, DC and Dallas, TX.

President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities
1331 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 376-6200
(202) 376-6205
(202) 376-6859 (Fax)
The President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities is an independent federal agency. The committee's mission is to facilitate the communication, coordination, and promotion of public and private efforts to empower Americans with disabilities through employment. The committee offers several publications that address aspects of employment for LD adults including **Pathways to Employment for People with Learning Disabilities** and **Employment Considerations for Learning Disabled Adults**. Both are free.

The Dole Foundation for the Employment of People with Disabilities
1819 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3603
(202) 457-0318
(202) 457-0473 (Fax)
The Dole Foundation is the nation's leading grant maker in the field of employment for people with disabilities. Grant funds of $500 to $100,000 are available to non-profit organizations conducting innovative projects related to employment and disability. Foundation funding priorities include underserved populations, minorities, women, rural programs, older workers, career advancement, and programs stressing placement with small employers.

Technology

ABLEDATA-REHAB DATA
Alliance for Technology Access (ATA)
2173 E. Francisco Blvd.
San Rafael, CA 94901
(415) 455-4575
The Alliance for Technology Access is a national organization dedicated to providing access to technology for people with disabilities through its coalition of 45 community-based resource centers in 34 states and the Virgin Islands. Each center provides information, awareness, and training for professionals, and provides guided problem solving and technical assistance for individuals with disabilities and family members.

Apple Computer Inc., Worldwide Disability Solutions Group (WDSG)
Apple Technologies
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014
(800) 776-2333
The Worldwide Disability Solutions Group at Apple works with key education, rehabilitation, and advocacy organizations nationwide to identify the computer-related needs of individuals with disabilities and to assist in the development of responsive programs. WDSG is involved with Apple's research and development to ensure that Apple computers have built-in accessibility features.

IBM Special Needs Information Referral Center
IBM Educational Systems
P.O. Box 1328
Internal Zip 5432
Boca Raton, FL 33432
(407) 982-9099
(800) 426-2133
The Center responds to requests for information on how IBM products can help people with a wide range of disabilities use personal computers. While the Center is unable to diagnose or prescribe an assistive device or software, free information is provided on what is available and where one can go for more details.

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)
8455 Colesville Road,
Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 588-9284
(800) 322-0956
The ABLEDATA database contains descriptions of more than 17,000 commercially available products for rehabilitation and independent living.

RESNA Technical Assistance Project
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1540
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 524-6686
(703) 524-6630 (Fax)
Provides technical assistance to states on the development and implementation of consumer-responsive statewide programs of technology-related assistance under the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988.

Life Management

In the Life Management section, programs have been selected that not only provide postsecondary training, but also provide residential housing for their enrolled students.

Berkshire Center
18 Park Street - Box 160
Lee, MA 01238
(413) 243-2576
A postseconary program for young adults with learning disabilities ages 18-26. Half of the students attend Berkshire Community College part-time while the others go directly into the world of work. Services include: Vocational/ Academic preparation, tutoring, college liaison, life skills instruction, driver's education,money managemant, psychotherapy and more. The program is year-round with two years being the average stay.

Center for Adaptive Learning
3350 Clayton Road
Suite A
Concord, CA 94519
(510) 827-3863
(510) 827-4080 (Fax)
Adults 18-40 years of age learn the essentials of independent living in a program that offers residential living, social skills training, sensory motor training, counseling, roommate peer counseling, cognitive retraining, and job placement. Students either work or attend local community colleges, and job coaching and tutoring are available. Apartments in the community are available, and most are clients of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Chapel Haven, Inc.
1040 Whalley Avenue
New Haven, CT 06515
(203) 397-1714
(203) 397-8004 (Fax)
Chapel Haver is an individualized, year-round, transitional independent living program for young adults with a wide range of learning disabilities. The program includes life skills training in an apartment setting, pre-vocational training, vocational placement and support, and practical academics. Participants learn all of the skills necessary to make a smooth entry into independent community living. Comprehensive non-residential, community-based independent living services are also available. These include life skills follow-ups, vocational assistance, social/recreational programs, and adult education classes, as well as benefits coordination.

Creative Community Services (CCS)
1720 Peachtree Road
Suite 127
Atlanta, GA 30309
(404) 872-6818
Serving young adults 20-35 years of age, this organization creates living arrangements for people with a range of learning disabilities who want to lead adult lifestyles but still need some support and assistance. CCS helps locate housing; provides a live-in counselor, if needed; helps develop a plan for each participant's future development; provides one-to-one training in necessary areas; and offers ongoing support for participants and their families.

Getting Ready for the Outside World
Riverview School
Route 6A
East Sandwich, MA 02537
(508) 888-0489
(508) 888-1315 (Fax)
This is a transitional program for high school graduates who would like to continue in an academically based postsecondary school, but

need to develop academic skills or independent living skills.

Horizon Program
University of Alabama
Education Bldg., Room 157
901 South 13th Street
Birmingham, AL 35294-1250
(205) 975-6770
(800) 822-6242
(205) 975-6764 (Fax)
The Horizons Program is a college-based, non-degree program for students with specific learning disabilities and other mild learning problems. This specially designed, two-year program prepares individuals for successful transitions to the community.

Independence Center
3640 S. Sepulveda Boulevard, #102
Los Angeles, CA 90034
(310) 202-7102
(310) 398-3776 (Fax)
Independence Center provides a supportive program in which young adults with learning disabilities learn the skills necessary to live independently. These include job skills, apartment care, social skills, and adult decision making. Vocational training is accomplished through apprenticeships and/or enrollment in vocational schools or community college programs.

National Council of Independent Living Programs (NCIL)
2111 Wilson Blvd.
Suite 40
Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 525-3406
(703) 525-3409 (Fax)
NCIL is the national membership association of local not-for-profit corporations known as Independent Living Centers (ILC). NCIL is the only cross-disability grassroots national organization that focuses its attention on national policy issues and the independent living movement, while local centers focus much of their attention on local and state policy issues. NCIL provides technical assistance and leadership to its membership.

New Lifestyles, Inc.
5975 W. Sunrise Boulevard
Suite 208A
Sunrise, FL 33130
(305) 797-6313
(305) 797-2813 (Fax)
New Lifestyles specializes in the provision of psychological and educational services to individuals with learning difficulties. It provides admission, program management, and clinical support services for the Foundation for Independent Living, a not-for-profit independent living program developed by parents to meet the lifelong needs of their children. It provides administrative and clinical support services for the College Living Experience, an independent living, academic, and career support program for individuals of average intelligence with learning disabilities.

Life Development Institute
P.O. Box 15112
Phoenix, AZ 85060
(602) 955-2920
The Life Development Institute conducts a variety of programs designed to enable participants to obtain employment and independent living status commensurate with individual capabilities. Vocational assessment and training is provided through community based programs or direct job placements.

Professional Assistance Center for Education (PACE)
National-Louis University
2840 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60201-1796
(708) 475-1100
(708) 256-1057 (Fax)
PACE is a non-credit, non-degree, two-year postsecondary program for students with learning disabilities. The program prepares young adults for careers as aides in preschools or human service agencies. In addition to professional preparation coursework, the curriculum also focuses on social skills and independent living skills. Students receive a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the program. College residential life is an integral part of the program.

Threshold Program
Lesley College
29 Everett Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 349-8181
(617) 349-8189 (Fax)
Threshold is a two- to three-year non-degree, college-based program that helps young adults develop the academic, vocational, social, and independent living skills necessary for independence. Students prepare for paraprofessional roles in offices, early childhood settings, or settings that serve elderly or disabled consumers. Most graduates participate in Threshold's third-year Transition Program, which provides support as they venture into apartment living and paid employment.

Vista Program of Westbrook
1356 Old Clinton Road
Westbrook, CT 06498
(203) 399-8080
(203) 399-4097 (Fax)
Vista offers an individualized program for young adults in transition to work and independent living. Through work experiences, individual and group counseling, seminars, and coursework, students develop skills and behaviors necessary for success in adulthood. Among the skills addressed are interpersonal relationships, positive self-esteem, and time management.

Vocational Independence Program (VIP)
New York Institute of Technology
Independence Hall
Central Islip, NY 11722
(516) 348-3354
(516) 348-0437
The Vocational Independence Program at New York Institute of Technology is a three-year certificate program for students with moderate to severe learning disabilities. The VIP curriculum emphasizes independent living, social and vocational skills, as well as individual academic support.

Publications

Adult Basic Education and General Educational Development Programs for Disabled Adults: A Handbook for Literacy Tutors and Instructors
Free Library of Philadelphia
Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH)
919 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(800) 222-1754
(215) 925-3213
This publication was funded by the Division of Adult Basic Education of the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education. It represents the experiences gained from the teaching of two GED classes for adults with disabilities. It contains a section on learning disabilities.

A.L.L. Points Bulletin
U.S. Department of Education
Division of Adult Education and Literacy
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-7240
(202) 205-8959
This bi-monthly newsletter of the Division of Adult Education and Literacy focuses on selected areas of interest in the field of adult education, current research, new publications, and upcoming events. Free of charge.

Campus Opportunities for Students with Learning Differences
Octameron Associates
P.O. Box 3437
Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 836-5480
Campus Opportunities for Students with Learning Differences - 4th Edition (1994), by Judith M. Crooker, addresses high school students with learning disabilities and their parents as they take the necessary steps in secondary school years to be ready to apply for college. It is available by prepaying $3.

Centergram
Center on Education and Training
Ohio State University
1900 Kenny Road
Columbus, OH
(800)-848-4815
Centergram provides information on education and training issues. Free of charge.

Challenge
P.O. Box 488
West Newbury, MA 01985
(508) 462-0495
The **Challenge** newsletter focuses on Attention Deficit Disorder. Available for $20/year.

Closing The Gap (CTG)
Box 68
Henderson, MN 56044
(612) 248-3294
CTG - Closing The Gap, a bi-monthly newsletter, provides in-depth coverage of computers and disabilities for basic education. Available for $21/year.

College Students with Learning Disabilities: A Handbook
LDA Bookstore
4156 Library Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15234
(412) 341-1515
Written by Susan A. Vogel, this publication is designed for students with learning disabilities, admissions officers, faculty and staff, and/or administrators. The handbook discusses Section

504 in regard to college admissions, program accessibility, teaching and testing accommodations, test taking, and self-confidence building strategies. Available for $5.80.

Computer Disability News
National Easter Seal Society
230 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 726-6200
(312) 726-1491 (Fax)
Computer Disability News provides general information about computers and disability in education, the workplace, and independent living. Available for $15/year

Learning (dis)Abilities
Learning Disabilities Consultants
P.O. Box 716
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(215) 525-8336
Learning (dis)Abilities contains a mixture of national and Pennsylvania news and resources. Available for $10/year.

Learning Disabilities, Graduate School, and Careers: The Student's Perspective
Learning Opportunities Program
Barat College
700 Westleigh Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(708) 234-3000
This publication informs the reader about the transition from college to graduate school or a career. In addition, a pamphlet called **Employers Guide to Learning Disabilities**, by Susan Little (Illinois Department of Human Rights), is available to assist employers who wish to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Both are available for $3.

National Networker
National Network of Learning Disabled Adults
808 N. 82nd Street, Suite F2
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
(602) 941-5112
The **National Networker** is the quarterly newsletter for adults with learning disabilities.

OSERS News in Print
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Switzer Bldg.
Washington, DC 20202-3583
(202) 205-8241
OSERS provides information, research, and resources in the area of special learning needs. Published quarterly. Free.

Peterson's Guide to Colleges with Programs for Learning Disabled Students
Book Ordering Department
P.O. Box 2123
Princeton, NJ 08543-2123
(800) 338-3282
Peterson's Guide to Colleges with Programs for Learning Disabled Students, by Charles T. Mangrum II, Ed.D. and Stephen S. Strichart, Ph.D, is a comprehensive guide to more than 900 two-year colleges and universities offering special services for students with dyslexia and other learning disabilities. Peterson's Guide is available for $19.95, plus $4.75 shipping and handling.

PIP College "HELPS"
Partners in Publishing (PIP)
1419 West First
Tulsa, OK 74127
(918) 835-8258
PIP has available a wide variety of materials and publications on adults with learning disabilities. **PIP College "HELPS"** is a publication of Partners in Publishing. Written for adults with LD, parents, and service providers, it includes timely information and "first person" articles. Available for $33/year.

Postsecondary LD Network News
University of Connecticut
U-64, 249 Glenbrook Road
Storrs, CT 06269-2064
(202) 486-2020
Postsecondary LD Network News is published three times a year. It focuses on a variety of topics concerning adults with learning disabilities, service delivery, legal issues, and the latest resources in the field. Subscriptions are $20/year for individuals, and $30/year for schools. Contact Pat Anderson.

Promoting Postsecondary Education for Students with Learning Disabilities—A Handbook for Practitioners
PRO-ED
8700 Shoal Creek Boulevard
Austin, TX 78757
(512) 451-3246
(512) 451-8542 (FAX)
This Handbook is made up of comprehensive and practical chapters designed for the service provider. The Handbook also contains a comprehensive reference section, as well as 18 useful appendices.

Schoolsearch Guide to Colleges with Programs and Services for Students with Learning Disabilities
Schoolsearch Press
127 Marsh Street
Belmont, MA 02178
(617) 489-5785
This Guide lists more than 600 colleges and universities that offer programs and services to high school graduates with learning disabilities. **Schoolsearch Guide** is available for $29.95 from Schoolsearch Press.

Succeeding Against the Odds – Strategies and Insights from the Learning Disabled
Jeremy P. Tarcher, Inc.
5858 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(213) 935-9980/9800
Succeeding Against the Odds, by Sally L. Smith, is filled with information on adults with learning disabilities. The author discusses the hidden handicaps, defines learning disabilities, and provides characteristics of individuals with learning disabilities. The book looks at the responsibility of preparing for adulthood. It also includes information for parents and teachers. Available for $12.95.

Understanding Your Learning Disability
The Ohio State University at Newark
University Drive
Newark, OH 43055
(614) 366-9246
Understanding Your Learning Disability (1988), by Cheri Warner, provides tips for students based on the author's experience as a Learning Disability Specialist. It offers definitions, characteristics, and suggestions related to reading, math, notetaking, test taking, social interactions, and organizational strategies. Available for $1.

Unlocking Potential: College and Other Choices for Learning Disabled People: A Step by Step Guide
Woodbine House
5615 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
(800) 843-7323
Unlocking Potential, by Barbara Schieber and Jeanne Talpers, Adler & Adler (1987), is a comprehensive resource for considering, locating, and selecting postsecondary resources. award-winning book teaches and assists readers throughout the entire postsecondary selection process. Available for $12.95 (paperback).

Toll-Free Numbers

American Association for Vocational Instructional Materials	(800) 228-4689
Center for Adult Literacy & Learning	(800) 642-2670
ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult, Career, and Vocational Education	(800) 848-4815
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	(800) 669-3362
Federal Financial Aid Hot Line	(800) 433-3243
HEATH Resource Center	(800) 544-3284
Job Accommodation Network	(800) 526-7234
Learning Resources Network	(800) 678-5376
Literacy Hot Line	(800) 228-8813
National Center for Research in Vocational Education	(800) 762-4093
National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	(800) 424-8567
Orton Dyslexia Society	(800) 222-3123
Recording for the Blind	(800) 221-4792
Social Security Administration	(800) 772-1213
U.S. Office of Educational Research and Improvement	(800) 424-1616

HEATH Resource Center

The HEATH Resource Center operates the national clearinghouse on postsecondary education for individuals with disabilities as a program of the American Council on Education. Support from the United States Department of Education enables the Center to develop publications and respond to inquiries. Single copies of HEATH publications of interest to adults with learning disabilities are listed below and are free by request from:

HEATH Resource Center
One Dupont Circle, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(800) 544-3284
or within the Washington, DC area
(202) 939-9320
(voice/TT on both numbers)

- **Focus on College Admissions Tests**
- **Getting Ready for College: Advising High School Students with Learning Disabilities**
- **Young Adults with Learning Disabilities and Other Special Needs: Guide for Selecting Postsecondary Transition Programs**
- **How to Choose a College: Guide for the Student with a Disability** (provides college choice decision-making structure)
- **Financial Aid for Students with Disabilities**
- **HEATH Resource Directory** (an annotated list of more than 150 national organizations relevant to education after high school)
- **Vocational Rehabilitation Services—A Student Consumer's Guide**
- **Technology and Learning Disabilities**

National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center

The National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities (National ALLD) Center, a program of the Academy for Educational Development, is a national resource for information on learning disabilities and their impact on the provision of literacy services. Established in October 1993, the National ALLD Center, funded by the National Institute for Literacy, will raise national awareness about the relationship between adult literacy and learning disabilities, and will help literacy practitioners better meet the needs of adults with learning disabilities. For assistance, write or call:

National ALLD Center
Academy for Educational Development
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009-1202
(202) 884-8185; (800) 953-ALLD

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AED

Academy for Educational Development
National ALLD Center
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009-1202

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Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)

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